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Subject: Agreement between Haffi and QANUQI

Report No: 220-77

Date of Information: About August 2, 1948

Place Acquired: Damascus, Syria

Date Acquired: 4 August 1948

Evaluation: B-2

Date of Report: 9 August 1948

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HAJI AMIN HUSAYNI

1. Isaac Bey ISKILANI, Secretary General at the Presidency, states that on about August 2, President QUNAYRI called the Haffi and QANUQI to his office (Note: ISKILANI doesn't know whether together or separately) and informed them that their feud was to come to an end. The President said that friction between top Arab leaders had been during the past months one of the most disrupting elements to civilian morale, and that the resulting loss of confidence in Arab leaders had hurt Syria even more than other Arab countries.
2. According to Isaac Bey, the Haffi and QANUQI are to work out between them a joint plan for continuation of the war in Palestine. The President left details of the plan to the two leaders, making only the general suggestion that QANUQI should command the army and that the Haffi should head the "people's committee" for Palestine. Isaac Bey predicts that the Haffi is the more likely of the two to object to an agreement following this general suggestion because, while QANUQI's military authority will be clear and unquestioned, his own will be vague and difficult to enforce. In accordance with the President's orders, however, he is working on a proposal, though it will contain provisions for strengthening of his status and a request for QUNAYRI's assurance of support on the political plans.

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